

DOCKET NO.: CSKL0004-100**PATENT****In the Claims:**

Please cancel claims 23 and 24 without prejudice to their presentation in another application; please amend claims 17, 20, and 22 as follows.

- 1-5. (cancelled).
6. (previously presented) A process for stabilizing a pyrene actin composition comprising:
 - a) concentrating the pyrene actin composition; and
 - b) mixing the concentrated pyrene actin composition with sucrose and a stabilizing agent.
7. (previously presented) The process of claim 6 further comprising mixing a reducing agent to the composition of step b).
8. (previously presented) The process of claim 6, wherein the composition of step b) is rapidly frozen.
9. (previously presented) The process of claim 8, wherein said frozen composition is lyophilized.
10. (previously presented) The process of claim 7 wherein said reducing agent is dithiothreitol.
11. (previously presented) The process of claim 10, wherein the concentration of dithiothreitol is 10 mM.
12. (previously presented) The process of claim 8, wherein said composition is rapidly frozen in liquid nitrogen or a dry ice ethanol bath.
13. (previously presented) The process of claim 6, wherein said stabilizing agent is dextran.

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14. (previously presented) The process of claim 9, wherein the composition is lyophilized for 40 hours over a temperature from -40 °C to 30 °C.
15. (previously presented) The process of claim 6, wherein said pyrene actin is concentrated to 0.2 to 40 mg/ml.
16. (previously presented) The process of claim 6, wherein said pyrene actin is concentrated to greater than 10 mg/ml.
17. (currently amended) The process of claim 6 wherein said pyrene actin composition comprises ATP and CaCl₂.
18. (previously presented) The process of claim 6 wherein said sucrose is present in amount of 5% w/v.
19. (previously presented) The process of claim 6 wherein said stabilizing agent is present in an amount of 1% w/v.
20. (currently amended) The process of claim 9 further comprising:
a) resuspending the lyophilized pyrene actin composition of claim 9 in A-buffer; and
b) incubating said resuspended pyrene actin composition on ice.
21. (previously presented) The method of claim 20 wherein said resuspended actin is centrifuged.
22. (currently amended) The method of claim 21 wherein said resuspended actin is centrifuged at 100,000 x g.
- 23-24. (cancelled).